

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. ~~A printer provided with an auxiliary storage,~~  
comprising:

5 a printing task for executing processing related to the  
control of a print engine according to a request for printing;

an image generation task for generating said request for  
printing based upon print data sent from an external device;

10 a task for writing to the auxiliary storage, by which data  
related to printing is stored in said auxiliary storage; and

a task for reading from the auxiliary storage, by which  
said data stored in said auxiliary storage is read,

wherein each of said tasks are exclusively selected and  
executed according to each priority,

15 wherein a relative order of priority based upon the  
priority of said task for writing to said auxiliary storage and  
the priority of said image generation task is varied when a  
predetermined event occurs.

20 2. A printer according to claim 1, wherein  
priorities lower than the priority of said printing task is applied  
to said task for writing to said auxiliary storage and said task  
for reading from said auxiliary storage.

25 3. A printer according to claim 1, wherein said  
predetermined event is a predetermined elapse of time.

4. ~~A printer according to claim 1, wherein said predetermined event is an occurrence of a predetermined situation which occurs in a processing of any of tasks.~~

5. A printer according to claim 4, wherein said predetermined event is judgment that quantity of requests for printing generated by said image generation task and stored to be consumed by said printing task exceeds predetermined quantity.

6. A printer according to claim 1, wherein a priority lower than the priority of said task for reading from said auxiliary storage is applied to said task for writing to said auxiliary storage.

7. A printer comprising:  
an auxiliary storage for storing data related to printing;  
a print engine for executing printing; and  
a controller comprising:  
writing means for storing said data in said auxiliary storage;  
reading means for reading said data stored in said auxiliary storage;  
image generation means for generating a request for printing supplied to said print engine; and

~~printing execution means for controlling said~~  
print engine,

wherein, if a predetermined event occurs during  
processing for generating said printing request by said image  
5 generation means, said writing means is executed more precedently  
than a generation of said request for printing by said image  
generation means.

8. A printer according to claim 1, wherein said data  
10 related to printing stored in said auxiliary storage includes  
print data sent from an external device.

9. A printer according to claim 1, wherein said data  
related to printing stored in said auxiliary storage includes at  
15 least a part of said request for printing.

10. A printer control method, comprising:  
a writing process for storing print data received from  
an external device in an auxiliary storage;  
20 a reading process for reading print data written to said  
auxiliary storage;  
a generation process for generating a request for  
printing based upon said read print data; and  
a printing process for printing based upon said request  
25 for printing,

~~wherein said writing process is controlled so that it is~~  
periodically executed by CPU even while said generation process  
is executed by said CPU.

5           11.       A printer control method, comprising:  
              a writing process for storing print data received from  
              an external device in an auxiliary storage;

              a reading process for reading print data written to said  
              auxiliary storage;

10           a generation process for generating a request for  
printing based upon said read print data; and

              a printing process for printing based upon said request  
              for printing,

              wherein said writing process is controlled so that it is  
15       precedently executed by said CPU in case a stored quantity of said  
requests for printing generated by an execution of said generation  
process by CPU is equal to predetermined quantity.

20           12.       A record medium for recording a program for  
operating a printer provided with an auxiliary storage and a print  
engine by exclusively selecting and executing any of plural tasks  
according to priority, wherein said program comprises:

              a writing task for storing data in said auxiliary storage;

25           a reading task for reading data stored in said auxiliary  
storage;

~~an image generation task for generating a request for~~  
printing supplied to said print engine; and  
a printing task for controlling said print engine,  
wherein said printing task is controlled so that it is  
5 most precedently executed.

13. A record medium for recording a program for  
operating a printer provided with an auxiliary storage and a print  
engine by exclusively selecting and executing any of plural tasks  
10 according to priority, wherein:

said program comprises:

a writing task for storing data in said auxiliary storage;  
a reading task for reading data stored in said auxiliary  
storage;

15 an image generation task for generating a request for  
printing supplied to said print engine; and  
a printing task for controlling said print engine,  
wherein priority according to which said writing task and  
said image generation task are executed is controlled so that it  
20 is varied according to a predetermined condition.